

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-9 and 16 have been amended. No new material is introduced herein. Claim 7 has been cancelled. Claims 1-6 and 8-16 are pending.

The abstract has been objected to as not being in the proper language and format. Namely, the abstract is not limited to a single paragraph and includes legal phraseology. The abstract has been amended accordingly. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the abstract be withdrawn.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's finding that claims 4, 7 and 9 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claims and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 1 has been rewritten to include some of the features of claim 2 and all of the features of claim 7. Claim 7 has been cancelled. Claim 9 has been rewritten to depend from amended claim 1. These amendments do not add new matter. Because claim 4 and amended claim 9 now depend from amended claim 1 which is in itself in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the objection to claims 4 and 9 be withdrawn.

Claim 1 has been rewritten to include the features of claim 7. The Examiner has agreed to allow claim 7 if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim. Claim 1 has been amended accordingly. Because claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable features of claim 7, Applicants request that the rejection to claim 1 be withdrawn.

Claims 12-13 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to a recording medium storing non-functional descriptive material. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 12-13 and 15 include all of the features of claim 1 from which they depend. Because claim 1 refers to functional material, claims 12-13 and 15 also refer to functional material. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 12-13 and 15 be withdrawn.

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Claims 1 and 10-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lane et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,377,051). Claims 2-3, 5-6 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lane et al. in view of Hurst (EP 0897245).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 7. The Examiner has acknowledged that claim 7 includes allowable subject matter. By this amendment, Applicants respectfully traverse the 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejections.

In view of the amendment to claim 1, claim 1 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 for the reasons set forth above. Because claims 2-3, 5-6, 8 and 10-15 depend from claim 1, these claims are also not subject to rejection as well.

Claim 16, although not identical to claim 1, has been amended to include some of the features of claim 2 and all of the features of claim 7. Accordingly, claim 16 is also not subject to rejection.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



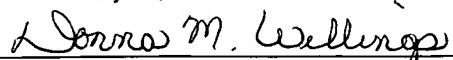
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Attachment: Abstract
Dated: February 14, 2006

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 14, 2006.



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